to bring food and Government promised to defray the expenses. So, no action was taken.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the number required for appointing one Brahmin cook? You said when there are sufficient number; how many do you mean by saying that?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is no hard-and-fast rule as regards that. If there is insistant demand from the relations or patients, then it will be considered. I referred to the Calicut Mental Hospital where there are 16 or 17 Brahmin lunatics. No Brahmin cook there. I know the British Government is paying serious attention to the particular sentiments of caste people, and with all that they have not appointed a Brahmin cook there. So I thought, if you had at least half the number here, I would undertake to appoint a Brahmin cook. The thing is a Brahmin cook wants Rs. 25 a month.

President.—If you say 'a reasonable number', then the further supplementary question will be what is the reasonable number. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I think nobody will have any objection to take food from the Brahmin cook. So why not appoint a Brahmin there instead of the other? He too is to be paid.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—A Brahmin requires excessive payment. A Brahmin cook wants Rs. 25 whereas this man wants only Rs. 6 per month.

Pay of Village Officers.

72. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have received petitions from the Village Officers (Parvathiams and Menons) regarding the increment of their pay;

(b) whether a deputation waited on the Diwan to consider their grievances;

(c) if so, what was the assurance given to them by the Diwan Peishkar and the Diwan during the deputation;

(d) how does the matter now stand?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Diwan Peishkar gave them the hope that their petition would be favourably considered.

(d) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was any reply sent to the petitioners?

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Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—By whom ?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—By the Government.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—No written reply was given.

Non-official Bills.

73. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) how many non-official Bills have been disallowed by the President at the initial stage without giving the Members in charge an opportunity to move for leave to introduce the Bills ;

(2) the title of such Bills, the Members who gave notice of their intention to move for leave of the Councils for the introduction of the Bills, the dates on which such notices were received by the Secretary to the Council, and the dates on which orders were passed by the President, and the reasons assigned for disallowing the Bills ;

(3) what is the usual procedure adopted by the Council Secretary on receipt of a notice under Rule 29, Cl. (4) of the Council Rules ;

(4) has the President or the Secretary any discretion in the matter of including 'the motion for leave to introduce a Bill' in the agenda for the next Council sitting provided proper notice has been given; if so, what is the rule which sanctions such procedure ;

(5) is there any authority or precedent for the practice of disallowing a Bill before the motion for leave to introduce it has been made ?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—(1) and (2) The Member does not in the first instance specify the time. It will be a heavy and arduous task to furnish the information called for for so many years, and the time and labour spent upon it may not be commensurate with the benefit derived therefrom, especially as every Member knows which Bills were sent up by him and when disallowed, the reasons for so doing, etc.

(3) This question does not arise as there is no Rule 29 (4) in the Cochin Legislative Council Rules.

(4) The question is not very clear. However, the Member is referred to Standing Orders 6 (1) and 20.

(5) Yes.

Opening of a school for the Pulayas of Kundannur.

7. മിസ്റ്റർ പി. സി. ചാണ്ടി.—താഴെകാണുന്ന ചോദ്യത്തിനുള്ള ഉത്തരം നല്കുവാൻ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു മനസ്സുണ്ടാകുമോ.—

കുണ്ടന്നൂർ നിവാസികളായ പുലയർക്കു ഒരു സ്കൂൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുവാൻ വല്ല അപേക്ഷയും ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു

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